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BULLETIN

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JUL 1 8 1985
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A REMARKABLE JOURNEY

One of the ways in which I regard the Kenya bird atlas as having succeeded has been in inspiring people to actually get up and do things. The extent to which contributors to the scheme have been motivated of course varies, but each effort, however small, has added to the whole. Thus, some have sent species lists from their gardens, or just mentioned a potentially interesting record in passing. Some have detoured during journeys to enter poorly covered squares, while others have extracted years of records to achieve comprehensive checklists. Still others have unstoppably burrowed through the paper mountains of the EANHS Nest Record Scheme and the three volumes of Jackson's *Birds of Kenya Colony and the Uganda Protectorate*, while others have written computer programs, fed data into computers, taken on gigantic typing loads, or flown aircraft.

There have been more hair-raising exploits. Legend tells of a contributor driving his Land Cruiser straight at armed bandits in the far NW, whilst menacing them with his rifle thrust out of the driver's window. And the people of Banissa 18a will not readily forget 5Y-AHA as it appeared out of the rain clouds one day last June, circled over them and came in to land, only to roar away after the last minute realisation that the landing strip was too short to permit take-off again. How well I remember that moment: one of my companions logged up White-headed Vulture, at that time our *only* record for the square, while, in terse terms, the one person who actually knew what was happening and what a predicament we were almost in, told us to at least momentarily disregard birds.

If I were asked to judge sheer enterprise and intrepidity, I think that Rosalie Osborn's journeys on the backs of lorries around the far northeast (*EANHS Bulletin* 1984: 65-71 & 88-96) would achieve an honoured second place.

Only second? Yes, because of the following. Through Rosalie, I obtained an introduction to Elaine and Nick Roberts who, until recently, were V.S.O. workers at Rhamu 19a, which is just west of Mandera 19b. They sent piles of data from that extreme northeastern area and, on the same trip that we astonished Banissa, we visited them and had excellent birdwatching in the Daua riverine bush, including the White-winged Dove, the Jubaland Weaver, Bruce's Green Pigeon, and a new race of the Scaly Babbler for Kenya.

But I never tired of pointing out to them that west of one degree square 19, logically enough, was one degree square 18 and that, apart from some records by Don Turner and Alec Forbes-Watson in 18d some years back, the above-mentioned White-headed Vulture in 18a constituted our only knowledge. So, I urged, just get even one meter over into 18b, and every species is bound to be new for the scheme.

To be honest, I did not think they would do it, but how nice it is to be proved wrong. And, in an area where most of us would venture only with 2 four-wheel drive vehicles, and would be further deterred by the prospect of bandits, shifta, call them what you will - when Elaine and Nick could not get a vehicle, *they bicycled* !

Words fail me. This has got to have been the atlas' finest moment. I can offer only profound admiration.

NOW READ ON

BICYCLE SAFARI IN NORTH EASTERN PROVINCE

Despite having lived in Rhamu, in the extreme northeast of Kenya, for two and a half years, we have had few opportunities to travel around. This has been mainly due to the difficulties of communications. However, travelling overland sitting on the top of slow-moving lorries affords panoramic views over the dense northeastern bush. Glimpses of Grevy's Zebra Giraffe, Lesser Kudu, Caracal, Gerenuk, numerous Ostrich and the inevitable Dik-Dik attest to the wealth of game which is rarely seen unless it appears within five metres of the road.

The birds, however, are less shy, and walks to the Dawa River have been rewarded with several species not found elsewhere in Kenya, i.e. the Jubaland Weaver and the White-winged Dove, together with a race of the Scaly Babbler.

A surprise half-term holiday was announced at the end of Ramadan, and we found ourselves with a week to spare. So we decided to travel to Banissa and Takaba, places of milk and honey according to our students and also very poorly known by birdwatchers. There were no lorries going that way, however, and private vehicles are hindered by tiresome escort procedures so we decided to cycle the 120 km to Banissa and the further 75 km to Takaba.

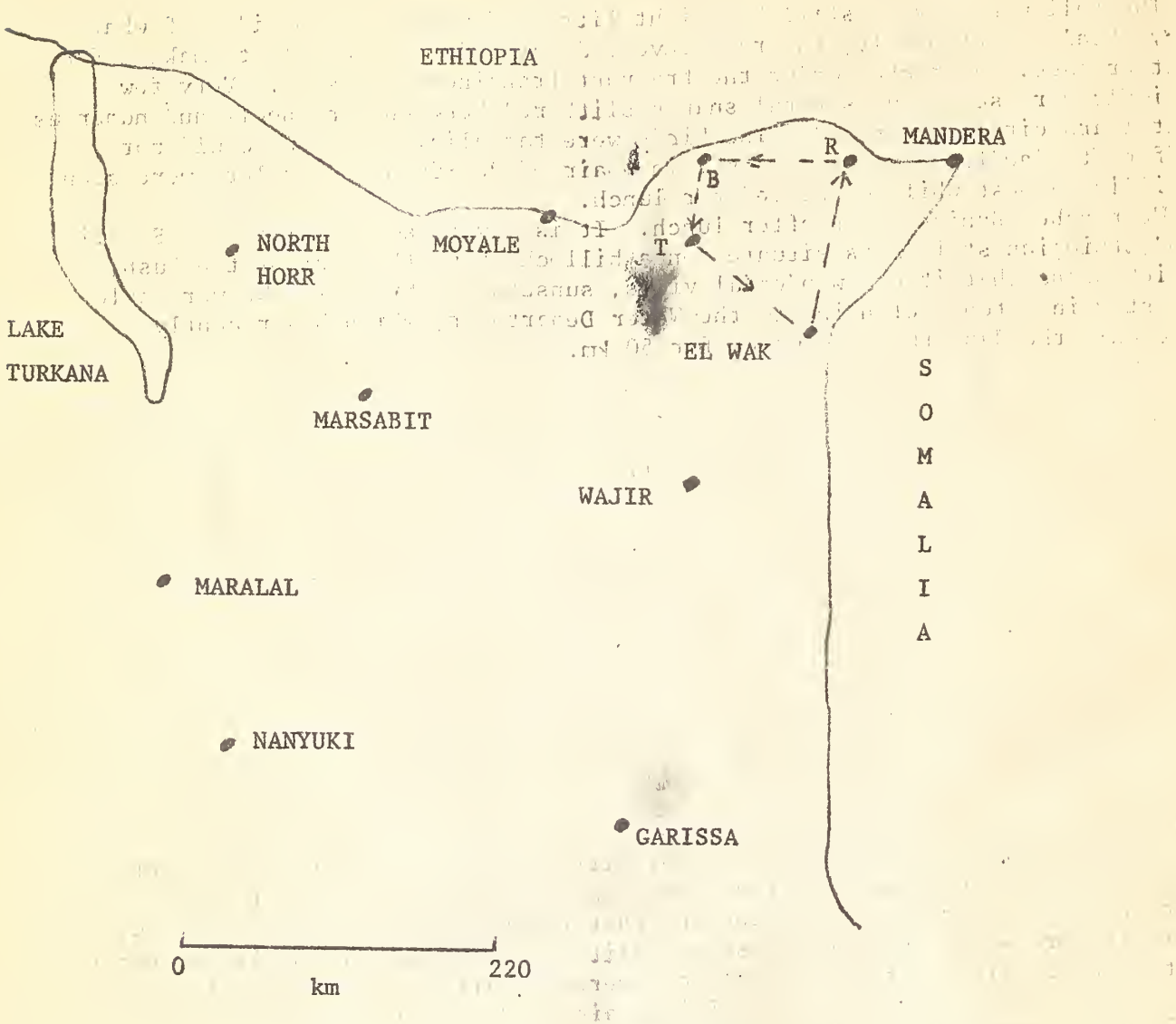
Madness? As far as everyone was concerned, we would lose our way, be killed by shifta, eaten by lions or die of thirst. Admittedly some of these horrors sounded pleasant and our tourist map did seem inadequate. But our will was strong, and we had the experience of having cycled from Kwale to Meru four years earlier. We were warned that, due to five years of low rainfall, there were no people on the way and no water. We were sceptical, believing Somali camel-herders to wander all over the area. However, in the event we were wrong: we met no people and saw no recent tracks, except for one old man who was walking to Rhamu to sell his camel.

We prepared our ordinary, black, Kenyan bikes and tied 15 litres of water onto their backs with old inner tubes. We took spares, rubber solution, mangoes and tins of food, and set off at sunrise. Rhamu is at 1300 m a.s.l. and Banissa 3000 m, so we knew that we should have to travel uphill. We also knew that the wind would be against us. These factors made cycling very difficult, but we saw plenty of Ostrich (which appear very large from a bike), Heuglin's Bustard, Rosy-patched Shrikes and Hunter's Sunbirds. As the sun rose higher in the sky, the frequency of the steep-sided, stony *lugas* began to sap our strength, so we rested in a sandy *luga* for lunch. By sunset we were physically shattered, with no idea of how far we had travelled.
We selected a thorn thicket on a stony rise for our campsite, and protected ourselves feebly with our bikes and a few thorny branches. Unfortunately we had been too tired to note more than the commonest birds during the day, but had good views of Spotted Thicknee, Purple Grenadier and Tufted (Helmeted) Guinea Fowl before we slept. We heard no lions, only some hyaena in the distance.

The following day we still had eight litres of water, but no idea of what lay ahead. Fortunately, the road levelled out and we were able to make a far better pace. We rested under the fragrant frankincense bushes. Very few animals were seen, but several snakes slithered between our wheels and numerous Bateleurs circled overhead. The birds were tantalising, but we could not afford to dawdle; however, a confiding pair of Red-fronted Warblers were seen building a nest while we rested for lunch.

We reached Banissa soon after lunch. It is a very small village of Somali and Ethiopian style huts, situated on a hillock above the rest of the bush, which means that it has wonderful views, sunsets and breezes. We were able to stay in a tent belonging to the Water Department, which has recently deepened the dam, the only water for 50 km.

SKETCH MAP OF THE FAR NORTHEAST OF KENYA



R = RHAMU

B = BANISSA

T = TAKABA

— → — Our route

The following day was the Eid, and we were well received with *Bunn*, which is traditional Somali coffee made from beans roasted in oil and then boiled with sweetened camels milk. I was informed that the bush was the *choo* and so I spent several hours there with my binoculars. There were lots of tits, flycatchers and White-browed Scrub Robins, and I was surprised to find Knob-billed Ducks, White-faced Tree Ducks and Egyptian Geese on the small dam. We managed to list about 60 species before we left the next day.

The road to Takaba had been improved by the Water Department and was excellent, flat murram, with only a few sandy patches. We averaged 12 km per hour and arrived just after lunch, much to everyone's surprise. The bicycle is a real novelty.

Takaba is very beautiful, situated under rocks with a view over a plain. There are several dams, and evidence of overgrazing by cattle. The rocks appear similar to those in Tsavo West, only with more bush . Birds were very numerous here, including whydahs, finches, Speckled Pigeons, Cliff Chats and Bristle-crowned Starlings. These starlings rode on top of the cattle and goats rather like Carmine Bee-eaters or oxpeckers, and walked between the feet of the animals in the manner of egrets. The hospitality of the local people was wonderful, including copious quantities of milk, tea and *nyri-nyri* (dried camel's meat preserved in oil). We recorded 76 bird species here.

We returned by lorry to Rhamu via El Wak, sunburnt, tired, but very satisfied. The sketch map shows our overall route

Elaine Roberts, c/o V.S.O., Box 56413, Nairobi.

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THE KENYA BIRD ATLAS

REQUESTS FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Any information on the following two points will be most welcome:

1. Does anyone have any CERTAIN records of the Yellow (formerly Golden)-rumped Tinker Bird in the coastal strip to the north of Sokoke Forest - Malindi, or on the lower Tana River? Were the Birds seen, and can I please have places and dates?

2. Does anyone have any CERTAIN records of the Grey Woodpecker in atlas squares 101a or 101b: i.e. anywhere in Tsavo West to the south of Ngulia Lodge, south to the southern edge of the Taita Hills, and in Tsavo East. Again, places and dates would be welcome, together with your certainty of the record(s).

AN URGENT PLEA FOR HELP

The Bird Atlas of Kenya is hurtling forward. The introduction is in excellent third draft and has gone to co-niscenti for comment. Over 700 of the individual species accounts are written, and data are being blasted into a microcomputer with a ferocity of application that has hitherto been reserved only for the produce of Kenya Breweries. We have signed a contract to publish the book and, mental and physical stamina willing, the whole marathon may be complete by the end of this year.

However, there is one bottleneck that must be rapidly thrust aside. After I have written the account of each species, I produce another, neatly written version, with all names and technical terms PRINTED. This written draft is

then passed on to a friend who, gratis, types a top copy and two carbons, which are then forwarded to other people for comment.

The sheer volume of text that is emerging far outweighs the capacity of this single, part-time typist, to keep pace so - we are in urgent need of others.

Three points are worth mentioning. Firstly, as stated above, we do not have the funds to pay for this first draft, so it will have to be a labour of love. Secondly, my handwriting is appalling though large, but I am trying to make it as legible as possible and, as I said, printing all potentially difficult words: and you could always leave spaces for the illegible bits. Thirdly, if you could do just a little bit, say a family, then even that would push us that much further forward.

SO, IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE?

Adrian D. Lewis, Geology, Box 30197, Nairobi.

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AMPHIBIANS IN KAJIADO

The African clawed frog *Xenopus laevis* is abundant in the deeper wells along the Kajiado River. (These are shafts cut about 10 m down into the rock near the river bed. The older ones are said to have been made by the original German company that started to mine trona from Lake Magadi early this century and used Kajiado as a staging post. The most recent well was dug only two years ago.) When there are pools of standing water in the river bed, for a few weeks or months in the year, these too soon become infested with *Xenopus*, as well as the tadpoles of other species.

The commonest terrestrial amphibian is the square-marked toad *Bufo regularis* which makes its appearance in the rains. It is cryptically marked in shades of grey and brown with a narrow pale stripe down the middle of its back, and makes a raucous low-pitched croaking. A friend whose house had defective plumbing used to be embarrassed by one of these toads which regularly made its way through the union and appeared in the bowl of her lavatory.

I once caught a small frog *Pyxicephalus delalandii* which exactly mimicked the square-marked toad, even to having a warty skin; but its skin was smooth and shiny, whereas the toad's skin has a dry matt surface. When I first found this frog (on 24 January 1979) hidden in a mass of dead creepers in the garden, it was bloated with water, but when handled it urinated copiously and became a more normal shape. Presumably the harmless frog is protected from predators by its resemblance to the toad, which has poison glands on the sides of its neck.

At Oleserewa (20 km NW of Kajiado and 300 m higher) when digging a large termite mound near to dry seasonal swamp-land on 22 September 1981, we dug up an aestivating frog. It was buried about 15 cm below the surface and was inclosed within a whitish, dry membrane. Within this globular lump we could make out the frog sitting with its legs pressed close to its body and its eyes tightly shut. We poured water over it and within a few minutes the membrane split open down the back and the frog emerged. It had a smooth shiny skin attractively patterned in brown and cream. It was identified as *Leptopelis bocagei*, a tree frog which has become terrestrial.

I have seen and heard several other amphibians around Kajiado, so this is not a complete list. I am grateful to the Herpetology Section of the National Museums of Kenya for identifying specimens. The common names used follow N.G. Hedges (1983) *Reptiles and Amphibians of East Africa*.

Jo Darlington, c/o Section of Entomology, National Museums of Kenya, Box 40658, Nairobi.

WANTED: TROPICAL TREE PATHOLOGIST

TO COLLABORATE ON STUDY OF RAINFOREST TREE MORTALITY

Dear Colleagues:

In the course of our long-term studies of primate behaviour and ecology in the Kibale Forest of western Uganda, we have collected data on the mortality of all adult speciemens from five species of emergent trees in a 43 ha study plot. During the last four years there has been tremendous mortality in three of these species, with all adult *Newtonia buchananii* (n=38) now dead; 80% of adult *Lovoa swynnertonii* (n=45); and 17% of adult *Aningeria altissima* (n=58). The annual mortality rate for the latter species has increased by nearly 2.5-fold during past two years. A fourth species, *Celtis africana* (n=195), appears to be entering a stage of increased mortality, as its annual mortality rate increased 4-fold in the past two years. The fifth species, *Mimusops bagshawei* (n=92), appears healthy, having suffered only 3.2% mortality in eight years.

In contrast to the high mortality among adult specimens of the above species, their seedlings and saplings are abundant and appear healthy.

The cause(s) of adult mortality are not apparent. There is no extensive loss of bark nor obvious heart rot. The uppermost branches die first. A superficial survey of other parts of the Kibale Forest (560 km²) indicates that this die-off is restricted to the forest near the Kanyawara Forest Station which is bounded on two sides by plantations of exotic softwoods, dominated by *Pinus caribaea* and *P. patula*, with few *P. radiata* and intermediate numbers of *Cupressus lusitanica*. Most of the *P. radiata* are dead or moribund, while a much smaller proportion of the other softwood species are dying. However, mortality does appear to be spreading in the plantations.

The ecological implications of this die-off are particularly important for the population of the rare and endangered Uganda Red Colobus Monkey *Colobus badius tephrosceles* living in this part of the forest: the three indigenous tree species most affected are important food sources for them.

Furthermore, there is the obvious question of whether or not the die-off of indigenous and exotic species are inter-related. Was a pathogen introduced along with the exotic softwoods which is now spreading to the indigenous hardwoods? Alternatively, they may be unrelated events, though to my knowledge no such spontaneous, massive die-off has ever been described for tropical rainforest emergent trees.

Clearly, there is need for a tree pathologist with experience in tropical rain forests to examine this problem. Anyone with these qualifications or similar abilities with funds allowing them to visit Kibale would be most welcome and are assured of our full support. Alternatively, given proper instructions of what to look for, what to collect and how to preserve the material, we may be able to send specimens adequate for laboratory analysis.

Qualified scientists interested in collaborating on this problem, particularly in terms of the pathology, but also in any other way, are invited to contact me.

Thomas T. Struhsaker, Ph.D., Director, Kibale Forest Project,
Box 409, Fort Portal, Uganda.

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SHORT ON HONEYGUIDES

Lester Short is Curator of Ornithology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, and has a particular interest in barbets, woodpeckers and honeyguides. He and his wife Jenny make annual trips to Africa to study these families in their natural habitats and, also annually, they are kind enough to spare the time to give a lecture to the Society on their latest findings.

The talk was on Monday 14 January and, due to the January/February issue of the *Bulletin* having been late off the press, we were in danger of attracting only a meagre audience. Fortunately however, the situation was saved through the help of the Kenya Museum Society who very kindly mentioned the event in their monthly newsletter; it was also advertised by word of mouth and in the newspapers.

Lester and Jenny have published numerous papers on barbets, and Lester produced the authoritative *Woodpeckers of the World*, but the study of these two families is straightforward compared to the task that they now have in hand. For honeyguides are extremely obscure and unobtrusive birds and their parasitic habit, laying their eggs in other birds' nests, serves only to make them less amenable to detailed observation.

About a year ago, Lester and Jenny gave us their first talk on honeyguides, and their basic theme was to highlight just how little knowledge exists. This year, having put in much detailed field study on a ranch in Laikipia, they had far more results to discuss while still underlining the shallow depth of current knowledge. They had been unfortunate in that the dry weather had inhibited most birds' breeding and thus the breeding of the honeyguides also.

Their methods of attracting honeyguides are intriguing. There are of course tape recordings of the various species calls, which can be used to attract them. But Lester and Jenny also imitated the activities of human honey-gatherers by lighting smokey fires, by beating the trunks of trees and by climbing into them as if they were searching for beehives. And sure enough, after a couple of days, four honeyguide species appeared: the Scaly-throated *Indicator variegatus*, the Black-throated *I. indicator*, the Lesser *I. minor* and the Kilimanjaro *I. narokensis*.

Whereas earlier authors had stated this family to show a marked lack of aggression, Lester and Jenny found quite the opposite. The rather robust Scaly-throated was the dominant species, driving the even larger Black-throated away from food sources. The two smaller species darted in for quick feeding when the larger birds were temporarily absent or distracted. These smaller species also appeared able to glean wax from hives which the larger species, for their purposes, had stripped clean. In addition to interspecific aggression, each species has its own hierarchy or pecking order of individuals, with specific displays to demonstrate submission to dominant individuals.

The family's name derives from the Black-throated's well known habit of guiding humans or the Honey Badger *Mellivora capensis* to bees' nests, to feed on grubs and morsels of wax and honey that these predators invariably leave behind. Two points arise here. Firstly, although there are scanty reports of this behaviour in others of the family, Lester believes that the Black-throated is the only one that guides habitually, or possibly the only one that guides at all, in which case the family's name is incorrect. Since they as a family are unique in being able to digest bees' wax, Waxbirds might be a better name. Secondly, although they have a predilection for this wax, they cannot exist on it alone, a captive bird having died after about three weeks of a totally wax diet. They do in fact derive a lot of their food by taking flying insects like a flycatcher, and by gleaning, i.e. by carefully searching the nooks and crannies along tree trunks and branches.

Apart from the wealth of behavioural data that the Shorts accumulated during this visit to Kenya, there were one or possibly two important distribut-

ional finds. Firstly, the Kilimanjaro Honeyguide is an extremely little known species, so that any chance to observe it is invaluable. The Laikipia ranch was only its seventh known Kenya locality. Secondly, whilst playing tape recordings of various birds in an effort to elicit responses from any species in the area, Lester played the call and received the response of a honeyguide that is unknown in Kenya - but could not relocate the bird again! Whether this will add another species to Kenya's already impressive avifauna must await further fieldwork.

Unfortunately there were no photographs of the birds but, as in previous years, Lester illustrated his talk with specimens of the various species from the National Museums of Kenya collection and with tape recordings of the birds' calls. He promised to bring colour slides next year.

As always, his talk was full of fascinating detail and hypothesis and equally as usual, he left me with a profound sense of my own ignorance

Adrian D. Lewis, Geology, Box 30197, Nairobi.

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A MIXED BIRD PARTY AND A SNAKE

On Sunday afternoon, 2 December 1984, I was sitting on the verandah watching the blue flycatchers which had a hidden nest in a big bush opposite the house. Suddenly a lot of noise and excited calls could be heard coming from that part of the bush. Suspecting a snake as being the cause of the hullabaloo, I quickly equipped myself with a stick and walked carefully closer to the noise. At first I could not see anything, but after a while I discovered a brown snake on the ground, moving slowly, flickering its tongue and 'blowing out' its cheeks. The birds were very excited and I could see several species: the blue flycatcher of course, a pair of pale flycatchers (hovering over the snake), a pair of black flycatchers, a pair of paradise flycatchers, a pair of white-eyed slaty flycatchers, one common bulbul, one golden-breasted bunting, the latter walking close up to the snake but not making any noise.

After I had killed the poor snake, all was well with the birds again. The snake was an egg-eater (83 cm) which is awaiting correct identification

Annemarie Lohding, Lolgorien, Box 93, Kilgoris, Kenya.

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OUTDOOR ACTION KENYA

Again these short courses for young people are being arranged as follows:

OAK 2 15 - 21 April 1985
OAK 3 3 - 13 August 1985
OAK 4 30 August - 6 September 1985

OAK 2 and 4 are being held in the Hell's Gate National Park and Lake Naivasha area for the first three days, day 4 on Mt Suswa and days 5 - 7 in the Loita Hills and Nguruman Escarpment area. The activities include campcraft, bush-craft, navigation, orienteering, caving, sailing and rock-climbing. These two courses are open to anyone between the ages of 13 and 18.

OAK 3 is a mountaineering course based on Kilamanjaro, the first half of the course will be spent exploring the lower slopes and acclimatising to the altitude. The second half will involve climbing the mountain and exploration of the summit craters and icefields. This course is open to anyone over 14.

The courses are led by Andrew Wielochowski and Ian Munro and are based at and organised through Hillcrest Secondary School. Full details available from Let's Go Travel, Box 60342, Nairobi (Tel. 340331, 29539 or 29540) through whom applications should be made to join any or all the courses at least 4 weeks before the course/s are due to start.

Alan J.W. Dixson, Let's Go Travel, Box 60342, Nairobi.

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KORA RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 25 - 27 MARCH

The Kora Research Project, jointly sponsored by the National Museums of Kenya and the Royal Geographic Society (UK), is holding a Symposium on the physical environment and ecology of the Kora National Reserve.

There will be an illustrated public lecture by Dr Malcolm Coe, Co-Director of the Project at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 25 March in the Louis Leakey Memorial Hall.

The Symposium itself will begin at 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday morning and will continue until 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

Anyone who wishes to participate should register at the Museum on Monday 25 March at 5 - 6 p.m. or on Tueday 26 March at 8 - 9 a.m.

Dr J. Mark Ritchie, Section of Entomology, National Museums of Kenya, Box 40658, Nairobi. Tel.742161 Ext.237.

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WANTED

Copy of the *NATIONAL ATLAS OF KENYA* (3rd Edition, 1970). In good condition. Please contact: Dr J.E. Reynolds, Box 58137, Nairobi.

FOR SALE

Four Wheel Drive Sazuki, Hard top, 1983 13,700 km, as new. Range Rover tyres, regularly serviced. Available April/May. Contact P.C. Fletcher, Box 43675, Nairobi. Tel. House 566737. Office 21420 or 29697.

GOOD HOMES WANTED for three male dogs, either together (preferably) or separate. One Black Labrador Cross-bred, one 'Giriama' dog and one Ridgeback Cross-bred All good watchdogs, and good with children. Contact P.C. Fletcher, Address above.

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WARNING

Members are warned not to enclose cash in envelopes for any form of payments to the Society. All correspondence (with the exception of contributions to the Bulletin) should be sent to the address of the society.

Ag. Secretary.

IMPORTANT NOTICE : ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Nominations for Office Bearers and Members of the Executive Committee, as well as notices of matters to be included in the Agenda, should be sent to the Acting Secretary, EANHS, Box 44486 as soon as possible, since the Annual General Meeting will be held on 18 March, 1985.

Dr Graham Reid is unable to continue as Functions Organiser due to other commitments, although he is willing to continue to serve on the Committee as an ordinary member. Any member/s who would be willing to step into this gap is urgently requested to get in touch with the Acting Secretary without delay.

SOCIETY FUNCTIONS

MONDAY 18th March, 1985: In the Museum Hall, Nairobi at 5.30 p.m. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be followed by a film. Title to be arranged.

5th - 8th April, 1985: Weekend excursion to Ngare Ndare Estate, Nanyuki, approximately 15 miles from Timau on OLD road. This will be a totally self-sufficient camping trip (borehole water available), in an interesting area with nearby river, forest, hills and escarpment. Please fill out the enclosed indemnity slip and return it as soon as possible, whereupon, a detailed route map will be sent to you. If the rain persists 4 - wheel drive vehicles would probably be recommended. To be led by Mr & Mrs Campbell.

MONDAY 29th April, 1985: In the Museum Hall, Nairobi at 5.30 p.m. Cynthia Moss of the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation will give an illustrated talk on her work with elephants entitled "The Social Organisation of the Amboseli Elephants".

WEDNESDAY MORNING Bird Walks continue, led by Mrs Fleur Ng'weno. Please meet at the National Museum at 8.45 a.m. sharp.

INFORMAL "POT LUCK" outings are held on the second Sunday of each month. Please meet at the National Museum at 8.45 a.m. and be prepared for eventualities.

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HELP IN THE SOCIETY OFFICE

I, Miss Flora Buyu the Acting Hon. Secretary of the EANHS would like to express my sincere gratitude to Miss P. Allen and Steve, Mrs Daphne Backhurst, Mrs Hilary Fletcher, Miss Heidi Schulthess, Mrs Katie Smalley, Miss Yolande Williams and to anyone else whose name I may not have mentioned above, for the help they give both verbally and manually to the Society Office.

Help from more volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Anyone with office experience, particularly anyone who is used to operating and coping with a duplicating machine would be MOST welcome particularly when the *Bulletin* is being produced, help with collating the *Bulletin*, wrapping and posting is also needed.

So, if YOU can spare a morning or part of a morning any Monday, Wednesday or Friday - please get in touch with the Society office, Box 44486, Nairobi. Tel. 742131 Ext. 278.

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NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have been elected to the Society:

Mr & Mrs Chirey F. Paul, Box 47525, Nairobi.
Rory Ross Akam, Box 24819, Nairobi.
Wayne Teel, Box 14894, Nairobi.
Anne Doris Zola, Box 47760, Nairobi.
Paul Frederick Whitehead, c/ National Museums of Kenya, Box 40658, Nairobi.
Paul C. Gitahi, Box 74662, Nairobi.
Kihara Kariungi, Box 49773, Nairobi.
Dr & Mrs Glen H. Miller, California Study Centre, Box 30197, Nairobi.
Bernard Boothroyd, c/o WLPCU Consultants, Box 50569, Nairobi.
Blake Edgar, University of California Study Centre, Box 30197, Nairobi.
Javed Mohsinali, Box 11042, Nairobi.
Nick De Souza, Box 29297, Nairobi.

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EDITORIAL NOTICE

The late appearance of the January/February issue of the *Bulletin* is regretted, as members will have noticed, the gremlins were at it again.

May I once again appeal to members to send in their contributions on all subjects concerning natural history. At a recent Executive Committee meeting one member expressed a wish to see more material on botanical topics appearing, members are therefore requested to try and do better in this respect! Herbarium staff are also being asked to contribute articles of botanical interest.

As you will have read on page 25, help is always needed in the Society office for general office work and particularly when the *Bulletin* is being duplicated, wrapped and posted.

ANYONE who is conversant with the foibles of duplicating machines would be welcomed with open arms (our machine seems to have a whole colony of Gremlins living in it).

As Adrian Lewis so succintly expresses it:

IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE ?

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THE KENYA MUSEUM SOCIETY

We would like to thank the Kenya Museum Society who, last month, very kindly included in their Newsletter our forthcoming functions which ensured that Lester Short's lecture received publicity and was well attended.

They have agreed to continue this service and we hope to be of assistance to them by recipriocating and publicising their activities.

THE EAST AFRICAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman: Prof. J.O. Kokwaro
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